

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7564
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE BEL
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 NICOSIA 0907

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC USCINCEUR FOR POLAD USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY, US
SUBJECT: GOC LEADER'S STATEMENTS ON U.S. ADMINISTRATION'S
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN DECISIONS

1. FOLLOWING IS GOC PIO RELEASE OF APRIL 2 BRIEFING OF
JOURNALISTS BY CYPRUS MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS NICOS
ROLANDIS:

"MR. ROLANDIS SAID THAT THE CYPRUS AMBASSADOR IN
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WASHINGTON, MR. N. DIMITRIOU, WAS YESTERDAY INVITED TO
THE STATE DEPARTMENT WHERE HE MET WITH THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE, MR. BARBOUR, WHO BRIEFED HIM ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE
CYPRUS PROBLEM AND ON CERTAIN DETAILS CONCERNING MR.
CHRISTOPHER'S VISIT TO ANKARA.

"DURING THE MEETING MR. DIMITRIOU WAS TOLD THAT:
"THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION HAS DECIDED TO ASK CONGRESS TO

LIFT THE EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY. THIS MEANS, THAT IF THE PROPOSAL OF THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION IS APPROVED BY CONGRESS, TURKEY WILL BE GIVEN THE RIGHT TO SEND ARMY OFFICERS TO THE UNITED STATES FOR TRAINING AND MILITARY MATERIAL WHICH WAS IN THE PIPELINE FOR TURKEY IN 1974, BUT WAS NOT SENT BECAUSE OF THE EMBARGO, WILL NOW BE SENT.

"MR. BARBOUR ALSO TOLD MR. DIMITRIOU THAT THE DEFENCE CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT WILL BE RENEGOTIATED. AS IS KNOWN, THIS AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR THE SUPPLY TO TURKEY OF 1 BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF MILITARY MATERIAL AND COVERS A PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS.

"MR. BARBOUR ALSO SAID THAT DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1979 TURKEY WILL BE GRANTED THE RIGHT TO PURCHASE 175 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF MILITARY MATERIAL. THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION WILL SUGGEST THAT GREECE SHOULD BE GIVEN THE RIGHT TO INCREASE ITS PURCHASE OF MILITARY MATERIAL FROM 122 MILLION DOLLARS TO 140 MILLION DOLLARS.

"TURKEY WILL BE GRANTED A LOAN OF 50 MILLION DOLLARS.

"MR. BARBOUR ALSO TOLD MR. DIMITRIOU THAT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION REGARDED THE DEFENCE AGREEMENT WITH TURKEY AS OUTDATED. THIS AGREEMENT PROVIDES BOTH FOR THE SALE OF ARMS AND FOR THE FREE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT. THE PART RELATING TO THE FREE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT BINDS CONGRESS FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR YEARS, WHILE CONGRESS DOES NOT WANT TO BE BOUND FOR PERIOD OF MORE THAN ONE YEAR REGARDING DONATIONS. THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION BELIEVES THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT ON A NEW BASIS SO THAT THE PART RELATING TO THE FREE SUPPLY OF MILITARY

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MATERIAL MAY BE LIMITED TO ONE YEAR. NO DETAILS WERE GIVEN TO US ON THE LINE ON WHICH THE AGREEMENT WILL BE RENEGOTIATED.

"MR. BARBOUR, EXPLAINING THE REASONS WHICH PROMPTED THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION TO TAKE THIS ACTION, SAID THE GOVERNMENT BELIEVED THAT THE EMBARGO BEGAN TO HAVE NEGATIVE EFFECTS ON THE POLICIES AND ORIENTATIONS OF TURKEY AND IT FEARED THAT IF THE EMBARGO CONTINUED A QUESTION OF CHANGE IN TURKISH POLICY MIGHT ARISE. THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION ALSO BELIEVES THAT BY ITS DECISION IT WILL BE ABLE TO EXERT A POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON TURKEY AS REGARDS ITS APPROACH TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. IN RESPONSE TO A RELEVANT REMARK BY MR. DIMITRIOU, MR. BARBOUR STRESSED THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS NOT ONLY COMMITTED BUT ALSO DEDICATED TO THE FURTHERANCE OF SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. THE AMERICAN SIDE BELIEVES THAT MR. ECEVIT IS SINCERELY PREPARED TO SUBMIT "GOOD AND CONCRETE" PROPOSALS FOR THE RESUMPTION OF THE TALKS. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION HE SAID THE TURKISH SIDE MAY SUBMIT ITS PROPOSALS ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM BY APRIL 6 OR A LITTLE LATER.

"MR. DIMITRIOU IMMEDIATELY REACTED AGAINST AND EXPRESSED GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE ABOVE POSITION PUTTING FORWARD ARGUMENTS SHOWING WHY THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION IS NOT CORRECT.

"M. ROLANDIS LAST NIGHT SUMMONED THE AMERICAN CHARGE

D'AFFAIRES, MR. DILLERY, TO HIS HOUSE AND MADE A STRONG DEMARCHE. HE EXPRESSED THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT'S DISAPPOINTMENT AND EXPLAINED THE REASONS FOR THE DEMARCHE. THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, WOULD MAKE A WRITTEN DEMARCHE TOMORROW.

HE SAID THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT BELIEVED THAT THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WILL HAVE DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES AND WILL MAKE TURKEY MUCH MORE INTRANSIGENT. AT THIS STAGE THE EMBARGO WOULD BE EVEN MORE EFFECTIVE, FOR TURKEY HAS BEGUN TO FEEL ITS CONSEQUENCES. AT THIS STAGE WHEN THE EMBARGO WOULD HAVE A PRATICAL RESULT IT IS BEING LIFTED.

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"TURKEY, HE SAID, HAD USED AMERICAN ARMS TO INVADE CYPRUS AND NOW WITH THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO IT WILL HAVE, IN SOME WAY, THE BLESSING OF THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION FOR ITS INVASION. TURKEY

HAD DONE NOTHING OT IMPROVE THE SITUATION SINCE 1974. ON THE CONTRARY, IT HAS AGGRAVATED IT BECAUSE, INT THE MEANTIME, IT HAS OFTEN VIOLATED OR DISREGARDED U.N. RESOLUTIONS, THEREFORE, ITS STAND IS MUCH WORSE THAN IN 1974.
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"TURKEY HAS SHOWN ITS INCONSISTENCY BY NOT KEEPING THE PROMISES IT MADE AT TIMES TO MR. CLIFFORD AND DR. WALDHEIM. THEREFORE, THERE IS NOTHING TO CONVINCE THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT THAT IT SHOULD GIVE CREDENCE TO ANY NEW PROMISES BY TURKEY.

"WITH THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION WILL BE ENTIRELY RESPONSIBLE IN THE EVENT OF FAILURE OF THE EFFORTS TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. THE EMBARGO HAD A VERY STRONG MORAL BASIS AND WAS A GREAT PRESSURE ON TURKEY TO TRY TO FIND A SOLUTION. THIS PRESSURE HAS CEASED.

"THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION IS NOT ONLY LIFTING THE EMBARGO BUT IS ALSO GOING AHEAD WITH APPROVING A 50 MILLION DOLLAR LOAN FOR TURKEY. TURKEY AND THE ENTIRE WORLD WILL NATURALLY INTERPRET THIS MOVE AS VINDICATION OF TURKISH POSITIONS, AS A REWARD FOR THE UNLAWFUL ACTS DONE BY HER AGAINST CYPRUS. IT IS EVIDENT THAT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION HAS GIVEN IN TO THE THREATS OR PRESSURES OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT AND HAS COMPLETELY DISREGARDED THE INTERESTS OF CYPRUS AND ITS PEOPLE, INTERESTS BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE AND SUPPORTED BY UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS. THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION'S DECISION WILL PROVOKE STRONG FEELINGS OF BITTERNESS AND DISAPPOINTMENT BOTH IN CYPRUS AND IN GREECE. THERE WILL BE NO CONFIDENCE ANY LONGER IN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND THE CRITERIA IT USES IN TAKING ITS DECISIONS.

"MR. ROLANDIS TOLD MR. DILLERY THAT THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WAS ENTIRELY CONTRARY TO THE ELECTION DECLARATIONS OF MR. CARTER AND TO THE STATEMENTS MADE BY HIM AT TIMES ABOUT DEDICATION TO HUMAN RIGHTS. IT WAS ALSO CONTRARY TO AN ORAL PROMISE GIVEN BY MR. CARTER TO PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU IN NEW YORK IN OCTOBER, 1977.

"MR. ROLANDIS EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE FRIENDS OF CYPRUS IN
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THE CONGRESS WILL INSIST ON THE PRINCIPLES ON WHOSE BASIS THE EMBARGO HAD BEEN IMPOSED AND MAINTAINED.

"MR. ROLANDIS URGED A SPIRIT OF SELF-RESTRAINT AND COOL AND ASKED THAT THE GOVERNMENT BE LEFT TO HANDLE THE MATTER IN THE

PROPER MANNER. THE GOVERNMENT, HE ADDED, IS OPPOSED TO ANY MANIFESTATION THAT MIGHT HARM THE INTERESTS OF CYPRUS AND REITERATED ITS APPEAL FOR ABSOLUTE COOL AND SELF-RESTRAINT."

2. NOTE: WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON GOC STATEMENT THAT IN REPLY TO A QUESTION BARBOUR SAID "THE TURKISH SIDE MAY SUBMIT ITS PROPOSALS TO THE PROBLEMS BY APRIL 6 OR A LITTLE LATER."

3. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF APRIL 3 STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU:

"THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, MR. SPYROS KYPRIANOU, ASKED ABOUT THE DECISION OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO ASK FOR THE LIFTING OF THE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY, SAID HE WOULD MAKE A STATEMENT ON THE MATTER AFTER THE SAID DECISION IS CONVEYED TO CONGRESS.

"THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC ADDED THAT THE MATTER SHOULD BE FACED IN AN ABSOLUTELY COOL MANNER. ON NO ACCOUNT SHOULD ANTI-AMERICAN FEELINGS BE CREATED FOR, IN SPITE OF OUR RADICAL DISAGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, IT SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN THAT THE LARGE MAJORITY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE FRIENDLY FEELINGS FOR CYPRUS AND, MOREOVER, WE CONTINUE TO REPOSE MANY HOPES IN THE U.S. CONGRESS."
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